

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 01208 131534Z

11

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 FTC-01 /068 W

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R 131453Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2446

INFO AMCONSUL ADANA

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ANKARA 1208

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAIR, MILL, PFOR, TU, US

SUBJ: CONTINUED PUBLICITY OF ALLEGED LOCKHEED PAYOFFS.

REF: ANKARA 1083

1. LOCKHEED REVELATIONS IN SENATE AND U.S. PRESS CONTINUE TO BE FRONT PAGE NEWS IN VIRTUALLY EVERY TURKISH NEWSPAPER, PARTICULARLY MAJOR PAPERS SUCH AS MILLIYET, GUN AYDIN AND AYRINTILI HABER. TODAY'S PRESS INCLUDES PHOTOGRAPHS OF ALLEGED INTERNAL LOCKHEED CORRESPONDENCE ON COMMISSIONS, GIFTS, AND "EXTRAORDINARY" EXPENSES PAID TO NEZIH DURAL, LOCKHEED REPRESENTATIVE IN TURKEY. PUBLIC PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE HERE HAS SEIZED DURAL FILES AND OPENED SPECIAL IN-

VESTIGATION INTO HIS AFFAIRS. MINISTRY OF DEFENSE HAS ALSO SET UP BLUE-

RIBBON COMMISSION WITH INVESTIGATIVE POWERS.

2. REPRINTED DOCUMENTS ARE MISH-MASH OF RECEIPTS AND DISCUSSIONS OF COMMISSIONS, GIFTS AND EXPENSES AND CAST MORE HEAT THAN LIGHT ON ISSUE. PRESS HAS NOT CONSIDERED WHETHER ALLEGED PAYMENTS OF \$876,000 TO DURAL COVER LEGITIMATE BUSINESS EXPENSES AND COM-

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PAGE 02 ANKARA 01208 131534Z

MISSIONS, BUT RATHER IMPLY TOTAL IS ALL "BRIBES". THIS CONFUSION

APPEARS LIKELY TO CONTINUE SINCE ISSUE IS MURKY IN ANY CASE AND TURKISH PRESS IS NOTORIOUSLY WEAK IN AREA OF ANALYTICAL REPORTING AND KNOWS VIRTUALLY NOTHING ABOUT NORMAL LEGITIMATE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS. ONE PROMINENT THEME OF PRESS COVERAGE HAS BEEN THAT THIS INCIDENT IS TYPICAL OF MACHINATIONS OF MULTINATIONAL FIRMS AND USE THEY MAKE OF NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES AND CLIENTS. THE LEFTIST-INSPIRED SPECTRE THAT CURRENT ECONOMIC PROBLEMS IN TURKEY AND EEC "PRESSURES" WILL CAUSE GOT TO FACILITATE FOREIGN PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN TURKEY IS ALSO BEING EXPLOITED. BY IMPLYING THAT "BRIBES" ARE CONSIDERED NORMAL BUSINESS PRACTICES OF MULTINATIONAL FIRMS AND BY SHOWING PRESENT GOT INTEREST IN ATTRACTING PRIVATE INVESTMENT TO TURKEY, MUCH OF THE PRESS SEEMS TO BE TRYING TO BLACKEN PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL, PRIVATE INVESTMENT, AND ALL MULTINATIONAL FIRMS WITH LOCKHEED BRUSH.

3. REPRINTED LOCKHEED DOCUMENT PURPORTING TO PROVE PAYMENT OF \$240,000 TO DURAL AS COMMISSION FOR ITALIAN SALE OF F-104S TO TURKEY MAY BE USED IN EFFORTS TO EMBARRASS DEMIREP. DEFENSE MINISTER MELEN ANNOUNCED WEDNESDAY THAT SINCE F-104SS WERE PURCHASED FROM ITALY AND NOT FROM AMERICA, THERE COULD BE NO QUESTION OF LOCKHEED "BRIBE." WHILE MELEN HAS MADE NO STATEMENT ON NEW REVELATIONS, PRESS HAS CRITICIZED INCONSISTENCIES BETWEEN HIS STATEMENT AND DOCUMENTS REPRINTED IN FEBRUARY 13 PRESS.

4. GUN AYDIN FEBRUARY 13 EDITORIAL PROVIDES FLAVOR OF HOW PRESS WILL USE THE ISSUE. ENTITLED "TO HUSH UP BRIBERY MEANS TO ACCEPT IT" THE EDITORIAL CHALLENGES DEMIREL TO NAME THE GUILTY, NOT USE MELEN TO COVER UP THE CASE. BROADENING THE ATTACK, TO INCLUDE OPPOSITION LEADER ECEVIT GUN AYDIN ASKS, "WHY DO THE PRIME MINISTER AND OPPOSITION LEADER ECEVIT, WHO SPEAK OUT ON EVERY OTHER ISSUE, NOT SPEAK OUT ON THIS ONE." THE EDITORIAL COMPLAINS TO DEMIREL "WHEN THE TURKISH NATION HEARS WITH SORROW OF THIS INCIDENT, WHY ARE YOU SLEEPING?" AND ENDS WITH THE COMMENT, "NOT ONLY THE TURKISH NATION. BUT THE WHOLE WORLD IS WAITING TO LEARN HOW TURKEY CONDUCTS ITSELF ON THIS BRIBERY ISSUE."
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